

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 SPC-03 STR-08

TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 SS-20 NSC-10 DRC-01 L-03

H-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 /150 W

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R 041736Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9530

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, GW, UK, EGEN

SUBJECT: EC REGIONAL FUND: ANGLO-GERMAN BILATERALS

REF: (A) BONN 46, (B) BONN 18345, (C) BONN 18270

1. DURING JAN 4 PRESS CONFERENCE, FRG DEPUTY SPOKESMAN
GRUENEWALD SAID YESTERDAY'S VISIT TO LONDON BY STATE
SECRETARY APEL HAD BEEN "RELATIVELY SUCCESSFUL" BUT
THAT A COMMON SOLUTION TO THE REGIONAL FUND DISPUTE
NOW DEPENDED ON THE COMMUNITY. ACCORDING TO GRUENEWALD,
ONE "COULD NOT (RPT NOT) SAY THERE IS A GREAT PROSPECT
FOR SUCCESS IN THIS CONNECTION AT THE EC COUNCIL MEET-
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ING" SCHEDULED FOR JAN 7. FONOFF SPOKESMAN VON

PACHELBEL ADVISED THAT THE GERMANS WERE THEREFORE SEEKING A POSTPONEMENT OF NEXT WEEK'S COUNCIL MEETING UNTIL JAN 14-15, AT WHICH TIME THE REGIONAL FUND PROBLEM COULD BE TREATED. PACHELBEL AGAIN EMPHASIZED, IN THIS CONNECTION, THAT THE FRG IS ADVOCATING "THE CONCENTRATED USE OF THE GENERALLY LIMITED FINANCIAL MEANS FOR THE MOST BACKWARD AREAS AND REJECTED THE PRINCIPLE OF THE WATERING CAN (SIC)." PACHELBEL ANNOUNCED THAT FURTHER BILATERAL CONTACTS WOULD TAKE PLACE.

2. BRITISH EMBASSY SOURCE TOLD EMBOFF JAN 4 THAT APEL'S TALK WITH DOUGLAS-HOME AND OTHER BRITISH OFFICIALS WERE OF AN EXPLORATORY CHARACTER AND PRODUCED NO RAPPROCHMENT OF VIEWS ON SPECIFIC FIGURES. APEL HAD EMPHASIZED GERMAN OPPOSITION "TO SPRINKLING REGIONAL FUND WATERING CAN," WITH GERMAN WATER, ACROSS TOO MANY OF COMMUNITY DEPRESSED AREAS. DOUGLAS-HOME HAD STRESSED BOTH POLITICAL CHARACTER OF REGIONAL FUND ISSUE FOR HEATH GOVERNMENT AND NEED TO OBTAIN LARGER GERMAN FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION. EFFECT ON FRANCE AND OTHER MEMBER STATES REPORTEDLY PLAYED PERIPHERAL ROLE IN DISCUSSIONS. BRITISH EMBASSY SOURCE SAID UK FAVORED GERMAN SUGGESTION FOR ONE WEEK POSTPONEMENT OF COUNCIL MEETING UNTIL JAN 14-15 AND ADDED THAT BILATERALS WITH ITALIANS AND FRENCH, AMONG OTHERS, PROBABLY WOULD OCCUR IN THE INTERIM.

3. APEL WAS SUBDUED DURING BRIEF LONDON INTERVIEW SHOWN ON JAN 3 GERMAN TV NEWS. HE EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT CONSTRUCTIVE AND RELATIVELY EARLY SOLUTION WOULD BE REACHED.

4. WE ARE REPORTING BY SEPTTEL ON NEWSPAPER INTERVIEW WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SCHEEL ON EUROPEAN POLICY, INCLUDING REMARKS ON REGIONAL FUND CONTROVERSY. HILLENBRAND

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